

68. (Canceled).

D2 sub 71 69. (Once Amended) The OCIF-binding protein of claim 65, comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO. 1, SEQ ID NO. 11, SEQ ID NO. 16, and SEQ ID NO. 17.

70. (Canceled).

71. (Canceled).

73. (Once Amended) The OCIF-binding protein of claim 65, wherein said protein lacks a transmembrane domain.

D3 77. (Once Amended) A purified and isolated polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO. 2, SEQ ID NO. 12, SEQ ID NO. 15, SEQ ID NO. 18 and SEQ ID NO. 19, or a nucleic acid sequence which hybridizes at 2X SSC, 65°C to the complement of any of SEQ ID NO. 2, SEQ ID NO. 12, SEQ ID NO. 15, SEQ ID NO. 18, and SEQ ID NO. 19, and wherein said polypeptide has the ability to bind OCIF.

78. (Once Amended) The OCIF-binding protein of claim 77, wherein said protein is a recombinant protein produced by expression in a host cell.

D4 81. (Once Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule capable of hybridizing in 2X SSC, 65°C to the complement of a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO. 12, SEQ ID NO. 15, SEQ ID NO. 18, and SEQ ID NO. 19, and encoding a protein which binds to OCIF.

83. (Canceled).

D5 sub 73 88. (Once Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 80, wherein the protein encoded by said nucleic acid suppresses the biological activity of OCIF.

D6 90. (Once Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 80, wherein the protein encoded by said nucleic acid suppresses the biological activity of OCIF.